**Introduction**

Disclaimer: Even if Wikipedia isn’t a reliable source, I have taken a few definitions from that site to use in this paper

In this RRL I am to say whether strategic bombing in World War II is to be considered as a crime against humanity. World War II was the most widespread war in history (according to History.com). Whether strategic bombing being used at the time is immoral or justified, it is still being debated up to this day. Innocent lives were taken, all at the cost of winning the war. However, was this done for a legitimate reason? Was strategic bombing in World War II justified or should it be considered as a crime against humanity?

In order to answer my question, “Should strategic bombing be considered as a crime against humanity?” this review is broken down into 3.

1. What defines a crime against humanity?
2. Was there a law that prohibited strategic bombing? Wasn’t it just new to the world?
3. Is there a difference between strategic bombing and saturation bombing?

**Question 1: What defines a crime against Humanity?**

**“**The term crimes against humanity has come tomean anything committed on a large scale” according to M. Cherif Bassiou . -------

**Question 2: Was there an international law that prohibited the use of strategic bombing? Wasn’t it just new to the world?**

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**Question 3: Is there a difference between strategic bombing and saturation bombing?**

Strategic bombing and carpet/ saturation bombing are two different kinds of bombing that are widely mistaken to be the same. Strategic bombing is a military strategy that aims enemy targets in which are important for them to win the war. This being a strategic move to precisely attack a certain place to help end further casualties. While the other kind attacks targets in some reasons, “to punish their adversaries for their previous violations, this being area bombardment often called carpet bombing” according to Horst Fischer. Another accurate meaning of this act is from Wikipedia, which says that” this is a bombing done to inflict damage to every part of a selected area of land”, hence the term “carpet”, from the same way a carpet covers a floor, the explosion completely covers an area of land.

For strategic bombing in World War II, Hiroshima and Nagasaki are significant areas that Japan needs to produce material for the war. Hiroshima having headquarters that command the defense of southern Japan and Nagasaki having industrial factories that make military equipment. Strategic bombing notices the significance of these targets to “destroy the enemy wherever he or she is, in the shortest possible time” (Wikipedia). Carpet bombing on the other hand,----

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strategic_bombing>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carpet_bombing>

<http://www.crimesofwar.org/a-z-guide/carpet-or-area-bombing/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Debate_over_the_atomic_bombings_of_Hiroshima_and_Nagasaki>